

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A media distribution apparatus, comprising:

a storage-section storer that stores views that are original media of content, and metadata for explaining the views, the metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing viewpoint information and time information both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis;

a request receiver that receives, from a client, a preview distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, viewpoint information included in the content, and desired time information, the identification information and the viewpoint information both selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the identification information and the viewpoint information of the content as well as playback time information of the content;

a media extractor/generator that extracts, from the metadata, a plurality of segments for making up a preview that is a summary and adapted to the viewpoint information included in the preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the preview distribution request, and dynamically generates the a-preview that is a summary video having a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the preview distribution request, by combining views corresponding to at least some of the extracted plurality of

segments so as to have a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the preview distribution request, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments; and

a media transmitter that transmits the generated preview to the client.

41. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein a plurality of sets of the viewpoint and priority of the viewpoint, both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, are assigned to the metadata.

42. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising a charger that does not perform charging for the preview or performs charging according to a length of the preview.

43. (Currently Amended) A media distribution method, comprising:
storing views that are original media of content, and metadata for explaining the views, the metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing viewpoint information and time information both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis;

receiving, from a client, a preview distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, viewpoint information included in the content, and desired time information, the identification information and the viewpoint information both selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the identification information and the viewpoint information of the content as well as playback time information of the content;

extracting, from the metadata, a plurality of segments for making up a preview that is a summary and adapted to the viewpoint information included in the preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the preview distribution request, and dynamically generating the ~~a preview that is a summary video having a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the preview distribution request,~~ by combining views corresponding to at least some of the extracted plurality of segments so as to have a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the preview distribution request, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments; and transmitting the generated preview to the client.

44. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, wherein a plurality of sets of the viewpoint and priority of the viewpoint, both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, are assigned to the metadata.

45. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising performing no charging for the preview or performing charging according to a length of the preview.

46. (New) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein viewpoint options are displayed to a user prior to generating the preview.

47. (New) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising displaying viewpoint options to a user prior to generating the preview.